

of any eutectic of 2,6-dimethylnaphthalene and another isomer in the mixture, whereby a mother liquor containing solid, said solid comprising 2,6-dimethylnaphthalene, is produced;

- (B) removal of the ^{? from which} mother liquor by repeated washings with a solvent;
- (C) dissolution in a solvent of the solid obtained, whereby a solution is produced;
- (D) crystallization of said solution by cooling, whereby a suspension is produced;
- (E) filtration of said suspension, whereby said 2,6-dimethylnaphthalene is separated, ?

and

A1 wherein the solvent used for one or more of operations (A), (B) and (C), is selected from the group consisting of low molecular weight aliphatic alcohols, glycols, and mixtures thereof.

2. (Amended) The process for the separation of 2,6-dimethylnaphthalene according to Claim 1, wherein the starting mixture contains 2,6-dimethylnaphthalene in a concentration higher than its eutectic concentration with isomers thereof that are present in said starting mixture. 1 ? -

A2 4. (Amended) The process for the separation of 2,6-dimethylnaphthalene according to Claim 1, wherein the same solvent is used for each of operations (A), (B) and (C).

5. (Amended) The process for the separation of 2,6-dimethylnaphthalene according to Claim 4, wherein the solvent used is methanol.

Please ~~cancel~~ Claim 3.

Please ~~add~~ the following new Claims 6-13:

A3 6. (New) The process for the separation of 2,6-dimethylnaphthalene according to Claim 2, wherein the same solvent is used for each of operations (A), (B) and (C).

7. (New) The process for the separation of 2,6-dimethylnaphthalene according to Claim 6, wherein the solvent used is methanol.

8. (New) The process for the separation of 2,6-dimethylnaphthalene according to Claim 1, wherein said isomers include 2,7-dimethylnaphthalene.

9. (New) The process for the separation of 2,6-dimethylnaphthalene according to Claim 2, wherein said isomers include 2,7-dimethylnaphthalene.

10. (New) The process for the separation of 2,6-dimethylnaphthalene according to Claim 4, wherein said isomers include 2,7-dimethylnaphthalene.

A3 11. (New) The process for the separation of 2,6-dimethylnaphthalene according to Claim 5, wherein said isomers include 2,7-dimethylnaphthalene.

12. (New) The process for the separation of 2,6-dimethylnaphthalene according to Claim 6, wherein said isomers include 2,7-dimethylnaphthalene.

13. (New) The process for the separation of 2,6-dimethylnaphthalene according to Claim 7, wherein said isomers include 2,7-dimethylnaphthalene.

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT

Claim 1 has been amended by incorporating the subject matter of Claim 3 therein; Claim 3 has been cancelled. In addition, Claim 1 and the remaining claims have been amended to provide appropriate antecedent basis, remedy improper multiple dependency, and remedy any issues of indefiniteness. In addition, Claim 1 has been further amended by inserting alphabetical prefixes for the various recited operations.

New Claims 6-13 have been added. Claim 6 is based on the combination of amended Claims 4 and 2. Claim 7 is analogous to Claim 5 but depends on new Claim 6. Claim 8 is supported in the specification at, for example, the Example, described beginning at page 10, line 10. Claims 9-13 are analogous to Claim 8, but depend on Claims 2 and 4-7, respectively.